would be the most effective because each of the 169 towns in the state could not provide or protect ground water to meet their supply demands nor could they provide for proper waste water disposal. However, local planning, zoning, and enforcement were determined necessary for proper implementation of a ground water management system. A system of ground water quality standards and criteria (classification) paralleling the surface water quality standards was determined by the state to be workable and effective. It could be developed in a timely manner, would require public involvement, and could assure consistency in all federal, state, and local permit actions.

In September 1980, Connecticut adopted "Water Quality Standards and Criteria," which included the classification system. The system is based on use standards rather than quality standards. The state took this approach for the following reasons:

- Flexibility to react to changing drinking water standards and new types of pollutants;
- Ability to prohibit certain discharges and land use practices in select areas;
- Ease of enforcement and simplifications of monitoring;
- Encouragement of consideration into local zoning and aquifer protection programs; and
- Consistency with statutory goals.

The resultant policy and use standards are

... to restore or maintain the quality of the ground water to a quality consistent with its use for drinking without treatment. In keeping with this policy, all ground water shall be restored to the extent possible to a quality consistent with Class GA [see Table 4.3]. However, restoration of ground water to Class GA shall not be sought when:

- The ground water is in a zone of influence of a permitted discharge.
- The ground water is designated as Class GB; unless there is demonstrated need to restore ground water to a Class GA designation or where it can be demonstrated to the commissioner that restoration to Class GA can be reasonably achieved.
- The ground water is designated Class GC.

Table 4.3 describes the classifications, uses, and discharges allowed.

Converting the management policies and procedures into a working program required classification of all the state's ground water into one of the four use classes established. This required the detailed analysis of the considerable available natural resource data; water supply and waste disposal practices and land use information; application of the state water policy statements; and extensive public workshops, meetings, and hearings. The